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Symington To Investigate Space 'Waste'

By John A. Goldsmith
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Sen. Stuart Symington, a strong critic of Administration defense policies, was named yesterday to head a new Senate subcommittee to investigate "wasteful rivalry and duplication" in space programs.

Chairman Lyndon B. Johnson of the Senate Space Committee announced establishment of the new subcommittee and the selection of the Missouri Democrat to head it. Symington is a possible 1960 Democratic presidential contender.

Johnson, the Senate Democratic leader, said the new seven-man subcommittee will start hearings as soon as possible and report, with recommendations, at an early date.

Noting that "at least" 14 agencies or commissions have some authority or responsibility in the space effort, Johnson said rivalry is "inevitable" and sometimes can become a valuable spur to achievement.

But he said "wasteful rivalry and duplication must be guarded against."

He said the Symington group will provide "continued surveillance" over organizational aspects of the space program with an aim of developing "facts for the people," uncovering "costly duplications that can be avoided," and "to provide the basis for sound legislation."

In addition to Symington, members of the new subcommittee are Sens. Thomas J. Dodd (D-Conn.), Howard W. Cannon (D-Nev.), Stephen M. Young (D-Ohio), Styles Bridges (R-N. H.), Margaret Chase Smith (R-Maine) and Clifford P. Case (R-N. J.).

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